

REMARKS

Claims 29, 35, 37-39 and 41-44 are pending. By this Response, claims 29 and 34 are amended and claims 43 and 44 added. Claims 36 and 34 are cancelled. Reconsideration and allowance based on the above-amendments and following remarks are respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 29 and 34 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Ross (US 5,859,628). In claims 35-37 and 39-41 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Ross. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claim 29 recites, *inter alia*, a charging apparatus comprising a monitoring circuit for monitoring the electric power level supplied through said power supply line and a charging circuit for applying electric power, with which it is supplied through said power supply line from said computer via said communication channel to a connector of a data processing unit driven by a battery installed in said data processing unit.

Claim 34 recites, *inter alia*, a method of charging a battery using a charging apparatus, said method comprising the steps of monitoring, by a monitoring circuit in said charging apparatus, the electric power level supplied through said power supply line; applying electric power by said charging apparatus, supplied through said power supply line from said computer via said communication channel, to a connector of a data processing unit driven by a battery installed in said data process unit.

Both claims 29 and 34 recite features that allow a charging apparatus the ability to not only provide a mechanism for charging a battery and a data processing unit, but also to monitor the power level supplied to the charging apparatus through the power supply line from a computer.

In contrast, Ross teaches a PDA cradle connected to a car system. The PDA cradle acts to charge a PDA and transfer data from the PDA to the car system. The Office Action alleges that the PDA cradle corresponds to applicant's claimed charging apparatus. Further, the Office Action alleges that the lamp 106 corresponds to a monitoring circuit because it "could be one color when charging and another color when the PDA is fully charged." See paragraph 6 of the Office Action.

The applicant respectfully submits that nowhere in Ross does it teach or suggest using the lamp 106 as a charging indicator of the PDA by changing color. Ross teaches that the lamp 106 is used in the cradle to illuminate the PDA when the PDA is in the cradle. See column 4, lines 25-55. The lamp 106 is not used as a monitoring circuit as claimed.

Further, even if Ross did teach a light that changes color when the PDA is charging and the PDA is fully charged, with applicant contends it does not, applicants recite the monitoring of the power level supplied through the power supply line, not whether a PDA or other device is fully charged or not. A light indicator of a batteries charge does not correspond to monitoring a power level supplied through a power line. Thus, Ross fails to teach each and every

feature of applicant's claims as required. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections with regard to independent claims 29 and 34 and their dependent claims are respectfully requested.

Conclusion

For at least these reasons, it is respectfully submitted that claims 29, 34, 35, 37-39 and 41-43 are distinguishable over the cited art. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

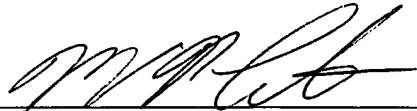
Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Chad J. Billings (Reg. No. 48,917) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

Appl. No. 09/883,938

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachment(s)